

Thursday, 19 September 2024

## Statement from David Swain, CEO of Endeavour Foundation

Endeavour Foundation is urging the Australian Government to implement a wage offset policy to ensure employees with disability receive at least the national minimum wage.

A wage offset would build the financial wellbeing of people with disability and get more NDIS participants into a job, with all the benefits that brings.

The release of the ***Taylor Fry Report: Modelling of the supported employment population***, provides compelling evidence supporting the transition to at least the minimum wage for people with intellectual disability.

The report shows that a wage offset is not only simple but also relatively inexpensive and aligns with the recommendations of the Disability Royal Commission.

In fact, the cost of implementing this offset would be \$165 million per year, which is significantly less than the \$225 million value Disability Social Enterprises currently provide to government.

We understand that big policy changes like this one take time and effort, but we need the government to take serious, tangible action to improve wages urgently.

We are calling on government to review the details of the Taylor Fry Report and develop a roadmap to secure the future of employment for people with intellectual disability.

We are committed to creating an inclusive future of work for people with intellectual disability, but we need the support of government to make more significant change.